



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

51
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/437,016	11/09/1999	YOSHIZO MIHARA	450100-02165	7418
20999	7590	03/23/2004	EXAMINER	
FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG 745 FIFTH AVENUE- 10TH FL. NEW YORK, NY 10151			FLETCHER, JAMES A	
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER
		2615		9
DATE MAILED: 03/23/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/437,016	MIHARA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	James A. Fletcher	2615	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 January 2004.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 9 November 1999 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____. | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because it contains several instances of the word "lauter." This word is not found in a general usage dictionary, or in either the IEEE Authoritative dictionary or the Microsoft Computer dictionary. The examiner is unsure of the exact meaning intended by the applicant. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Drawings

2. The drawings are objected to because Fig. 1, item 151 contains the label "lauter." This word is not found in a general usage dictionary, or in either the IEEE Authoritative dictionary or the Microsoft Computer dictionary. The examiner is unsure of the exact meaning intended by the applicant. A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed 4 January 2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In re page 8, applicant's representative states, "It is respectfully submitted that Holroyd as applied by the Examiner...does not appear to disclose time-divisional controlling means as in amended claim 1. The examiner respectfully disagrees.

In Col 2, lines 26-38, Holroyd discloses a computer as a controlling means for the system. Computers are well known in the art to perform tasks in a time-divisional matter, frequently multiplexing signals over busses and communications links.

Further, in Col 2, lines 49-51, Holroyd discloses a digital disk mass storage unit for the storage of incoming video material. Digital discs are well known in the art to use a single head for both recording and reproducing, and as such those functions must be performed in a time-divisional process.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Holroyd et al (5,781,435).

Regarding claim 1, Holroyd et al disclose a data recording and/or reproducing apparatus comprising:

- recording and/or reproducing means for recording and/or reproducing data (Col 2, line 9 “an editing system”) inclusive of video data and audio data (Col 2, lines 33-37 “Sources of original material...provide material, such as video...and corresponding audio material”) on a non-linear-accessible recording medium (Col 2, lines 49-50 “The editing system stores material in digital form in the storage unit, which allows for non-linear editing”):

- at least one input processing means for processing data inputted from outside and for outputting the processed data to the recording and/or reproducing means (Col 2, lines 33-35 "Sources of original material...provide material...to the processor unit" and Col 2, lines 49-50 "The editing system stores material in digital form in the storage unit"); and
- at least one output processing means for processing and outputting the data reproduced by the recording and/or reproducing means to output the processed data to outside (Col 2, lines 43-44 "The audio and video outputs also may be provided to another VTR or disk recorder"),
- time-divisional controlling means for controlling the input processing means and the output processing means (Col 2, lines 26-28 "The processor unit 12 contains the computers where the internal processing work is performed") to time-divisionally access the recording and/or reproducing means respectively to input and output data, comprising:
 - switching means for being fed with the data outputted from the input processing means and the output processing means for selectively outputting the input data to the input processing means and the output processing means (Col 2, lines 39-42 "video from the VTR and the edited video material also are selectively provided by the processor unit as a video output to a video monitor"); and
 - control means for controlling at least one of the input processing means, output processing means, and the switching means to perform

the processing specified by a control command commanding a pre-set editing mode if the control command is inputted (Col 2, lines 57-63 “normally the various types of material are separately logged into the storage unit 14 as a series of digitized shots which are then available for subsequent non-linear editing. However the present invention allows the editor to take shots directly from a linear source, such as the VTR 28, a camera or the like, and insert the shots directly into the edit”).

Regarding claim 2, Holroyd et al disclose a data recording and/or reproducing apparatus wherein:

- the input processing means and the output processing means each having first and second selection means (Col 2, lines 33-36 “Sources of original material, such as video tape recorders [VTRs], cameras or the like provide material such as video, timecode and VITC material, to the processor unit and corresponding audio material to the audio interface” and Col 2, , lines 39-42 “video from the VTR and the edited video material also are selectively provided by the processor unit as a video output to a video monitor”);
- the first selection means being fed as inputs with the data inputted from outside and the data outputted from the switching means so that one of these data is outputted from the control means (Col 2, lines 57-64 “normally the various types of material are separately logged into the storage unit 14 as a series of digitized shots which are then available for subsequent non-linear

editing. However the present invention allows the editor to take shots directly from a liner source, such as the VTR, a camera, or the like, and insert the shots directly into the edit”);

- the second selection means being fed with the data reproduced from the recording and/or reproducing means and the data outputted from the switching means so that one of the data is outputted under control by the control means (Col 2, lines 39-42 “video from the VTR and the edited video material also are selectively provided by the processor unit as a video output to a video monitor”).

Regarding claim 3, Holroyd et al disclose a data recording and/or reproducing apparatus comprising:

- external reproducing means (Col 2, lines 33-35 “Sources of original material, such as video tape recorders [VTRs], cameras or the like, provide material, such as video...to the processor unit”);
- the control means performing control so that, when a control command specifying the pre-set editing mode is inputted, the data reproduced from the external reproducing means is inputted to the input processing means (Col 4, lines 25-28 “When the editor indicates the in-point for the shot, the processor unit records, i.e., digitizes, the shot starting with the handle prior to the in-point into the storage unit”) and outputted to the switching means (Col 4, lines 35-36 “The shot is also simultaneously inserted into the edit”), while the data inputted to the switching means is outputted to the output processing means

(Col 2, lines 39-42 "the video from the VTR and the edited video material also are selectively provided by the processor unit as a video output to a video monitor").

Regarding claim 4, Holroyd et al disclose a data recording and/or reproducing apparatus wherein:

- the control means controls the input processing means so that the data outputted by the switching means will be selectively outputted by the first selection means so as to be re-recorded by the recording and/or reproducing means (Col 2, lines 57-64 "normally the various types of material are separately logged into the storage unit 14 as a series of digitized shots which are then available for subsequent non-linear editing. However the present invention allows the editor to take shots directly from a linear source, such as the VTR 28, a camera or the like, and insert the shots directly into the edit, the processor unit 12 performing the digitization of the selected shots in the background simultaneously").

Regarding claim 5, Holroyd et al disclose a data recording and/or reproducing apparatus wherein:

- the control means controls the input processing means so that, when the data outputted by the switching means is outputted to outside, the data is selectively outputted from the second selection means (Col 5, lines 13-15 "if the source control function is turned OFF, then when the edit-to-it source is accessed, only the already digitized shots are available for the edit").

Regarding claim 6, Holroyd et al disclose a data recording and/or reproducing apparatus wherein:

- external reproducing means (Col 2, lines 33-35 "Sources of original material, such as video tape recorders [VTRs], cameras or the like, provide material...to the processor unit");
- the control means on reception of a control command specifying the pre-set editing mode controlling the output processing means so that the data recorded on the recording medium will be outputted from the output processing means (Col 3, lines 13-14 "When the edit is viewed, the video and audio from the material files of the original shots are played"), the control means also controlling the input processing means, output reprocessing means and the switching means (Col 2, lines 57-63 "normally the various types of material are separately logged into the storage unit 14 as a series of digitized shots which are then available for subsequent non-linear editing. However the present invention allows the editor to take shots directly from a linear source, such as the VTR 28, a camera or the like, and insert the shots directly into the edit") so that the reproduced data reproduced from a pre-set first editing point will be inputted from the input processing means to the switching means (Col 63-64 "the processor unit performing the digitization of the selected shots in the background simultaneously") and further outputted from the switching means to the output processing means and from the second selection means (Col 1, lines 34-35 "The shot is then included into the

edit while simultaneously being recorded into mass storage"), the data recorded on the recording medium being outputted from a pre-set second editing point from the output processing means (Col 4, lines 62-64 "All of the edit after the original in-point on the record viewer is moved to be after the out-point of the new shot from the tape").

Regarding claim 7, Holroyd et al disclose a video recording/reproducing apparatus comprising:

- external reproducing means (Col 2, lines 33-35 "Sources of original material, such as video tape recorders [VTRs], cameras or the like, provide material...to the processor unit");
- the control means on reception of a control command specifying the pre-set editing mode controlling the input processing means, output processing means and the switching means so that the data reproduced from the external reproducing means will be inputted from the input processing means to the switching means (Col 2, lines 57-61 "normally the various types of material are separately logged into the storage unit...However the present invention allows the editor to take shots directly from a linear source" and Col 2, lines 34-35 "Sources of original material, such as video tape recorders [VTRs], cameras, or the like, provide material...to the processor unit") and further outputted from the switching means to the output processing means and from the second selection means, the control means also controlling the output processing means so that the data recorded on the recording and/or

reproducing means will be outputted from the pre-set first editing point from the output processing means, the control means also controlling the input processing means, output processing means and the switching means so that the data reproduced from the external reproducing means from a pre-set second editing point will be inputted to the switching means and so that the data will be outputted from the switching means to the output processing means so as to be outputted from the second selection means (Col 3, lines 13-14 "When the edit is viewed, the video and audio from the material files of the original shots are played").

Regarding claim 8, Holroyd et al disclose a data recording and/or reproducing method for recording and/or reproducing data using a data recording and/or reproducing apparatus comprising:

- recording and/or reproducing means for recording and/or reproducing data inclusive of video data and audio data on a non-linear accessible recording medium (Col 2, lines 49-50 "The editing system stores material in digital form in the storage unit, which allows for non-linear editing");
- at least one input processing means for processing data inputted from outside and for outputting to outside the processed data to the recording and/or reproducing means (Col 2, lines 33-42 "Sources of original material, such as video-tape recorders [VTRs], cameras or the like, provide material, such as video...to the processor unit and corresponding audio material to the audio interface. The audio from the VTR and the edited audio from the processor

- unit are selectively provided to the audio interface for output on speakers, and the video from the VTR and the edited video material also are selectively provided by the processor unit as a video output to a video monitor"); and
- at least one output processing means for processing the data reproduced by the recording and/or reproducing means to output the processed data to outside (Col 2, lines 43-44 "The audio and video outputs also may be provided to another VTR or disk recorder"); and
 - time divisional controlling means for controlling the input processing means and the output processing means (Col 2, lines 26-28 "The processor unit 12 contains the computers where the internal processing work is performed") to time-divisionally access the recording and/or reproducing means respectively to input and output data, the method comprising:
 - a first step of receiving, as input, a control command specifying a pre-set editing mode (Col 1, lines 30-62 "An editor selects an in-point on an edit and an in-point on the source indicating the beginning of a shot");
 - a second step of specifying the input processing means and the output processing means as processing means for executing the control command (Col 2, lines 33-35, "Sources of original material, such as video tape recorders 9VTRs], cameras, or the like, provide material...to the processor unit" and Col 2, lines 57-62 "normally the various types of material are separately logged into the storage unit 14 as a series of digitized shots which are then available for subsequent

- non-linear editing. However the present invention allows the editor to take shots directly from a linear source, such as the VTR 28, a camera or the like, and insert the shots directly into the edit");
- a third step of outputting, from the specified output processing means, the data fed to the specified input processing means as input and reproduced from the recording and/or reproducing means from the editing point information up to a first editing point (Col 4, lines 43-44 "Where the original source is used, the VTR prerolls and then starts playing");
 - a fourth step of outputting the data, inputted to the input processing means, to the switching means connected between the input processing means and the output processing means, for a domain from the first editing point to a second editing point, and of outputting the data from the switching means to the specified output processing means (Col 4, lines 44-48 "when the source in-point is reached the video, audio, timecode, and/or VITC are recorded as the edit is performed. When the editor...indicates the end of the shoot, the recording stops and that point becomes the out-point for the shot");
 - a fifth step of outputting the data outputted at the fourth step to outside (Col 3, lines 12-13 "When the edit is viewed, the video and audio from the material files of the original shots are played"), and;

- a sixth step of outputting the data reproduced from the recording and/or reproducing means from the second editing step from the output processing means (Col 4, lines 62-64 "All of the edit after the original in-point on the record viewer is moved to be after the out-point of the new shot from the tape").

Regarding claim 9, please see examiner's remarks regarding claim 8.

Further regarding claim 9, Holroyd et al disclose a data recording and/or reproducing method for recording and/or reproducing data using a data recording and/or reproducing apparatus comprising:

- time-divisional controlling means for controlling the input processing means and the output processing means (Col 2, lines 26-28 "The processor unit 12 contains the computers where the internal processing work is performed") to time-divisionally access the recording and/or reproducing means respectively to input and output data, the method comprising:
 - a third step of outputting the data, fed to the specified input processing means and inputted to the input processing means, up to a first editing point from the editing point information, to the switching means connected between the input processing means and the output processing means (Col 4, lines 43-44 "Where the original source is used, the VTR prerolls and then starts playing"), outputting the data by the switching means to the specified output processing means and of

outputting the data from the output processing means (Col 4, lines 14-15 "video from the source is displayed on the monitor");

- a fifth step of outputting from the second editing point the data, inputted to the specified input processing means, to the switching means connected between the input processing means and the output processing means (Col 4, lines 62-64 "All of the edit after the original in-point on the record viewer is moved to be after the out-point of the new shot from the tape"), outputting the data by the switching means to the specified output processing means and of outputting the data from the output processing means (Col 4, lines 14-15 "video from the source is displayed on the monitor").

Conclusion

6. THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James A. Fletcher whose telephone number is (703) 305-3464. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:45AM - 5:45PM M-Th, first Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Christensen can be reached at (703) 308-9644.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314 (for Technology Center 2600 only).

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

JAF
March 10, 2004


VINCENT BOCCIO
PRIMARY EXAMINER